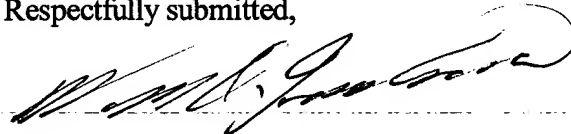


Remarks

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the telephone interview granted to the undersigned attorney by the Examiner, Mr. Nguyen, on December 9, 2002. While no agreement was reached with regard to the allowance of claims, it was agreed that entry of an amendment along the lines as presented here would be appropriate and would place the application in better form for consideration on appeal.

By this amendment, all of the claims in this application, with the exception of claim 16 now rewritten as new claim 37 and claims 17-20, have been cancelled. Thus, upon entry of this amendment, the claims in this application will be independent claim 20, independent claim 37, and claims 17-19 now dependent from independent claim 37. Since this amendment cancels claims placing the applicants in better form for consideration on appeal and raises no new issues requiring further search or consideration, entry of this amendment under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.116 is appropriate and such action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: 12/11/2002

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Marked Up Version of Claims

17. A process according to claim [16] 37, wherein the dienes have been removed from the feedstock prior to the cracking step by selective hydrogenation.